



Indiana State Excise Police News Release

302 West Washington Street, Room E112 ~ Indianapolis, IN 46204

Telephone: (317) 232-2469 ~ Fax: (317) 233-6114

www.in.gov/atc/ise

For Immediate Release

Contact Person:

Officer Travis R. Thickstun

tthickstun@atc.in.gov

(812) 523-8314 or (317) 691-5125

Excise Police Issue 118 Tickets in Bloomington

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – Indiana State Excise Police officers issued 118 summonses on Thursday, September 4, and Saturday, September 6, 2008, in Bloomington. Most tickets were for illegal possession during tailgating at Indiana University's game against Murray State.

Most summonses were for illegal consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages. The following is a list of some of the charges:

- *85 minors were charged with illegal possession, consumption or transportation of alcoholic beverages.
- *16 minors were charged with possession of false identification.
- *12 minors were charged with making a false statement of age to an alcoholic beverage establishment. False statement became a Class C Misdemeanor on July 1, 2008, before which it had been only a Class C Infraction.
- *Four minors were charged with being in a tavern.
- *One person was also cited for littering.

"Excise officers spent most of the day Saturday patrolling the tailgating areas south of 17th Street," Officer Travis Thickstun said. "Most of our officers utilize plain clothes to work the tailgating areas. Not being in uniform allows officers to get closer to someone before he or she knows they are the police officers, which reduces foot pursuits and other problems."

One female, age 19, was twice caught in possession of alcoholic beverages during tailgating. She was cited at 4:30 p.m. for possessing a cup of beer. Around 6:30 p.m., a plain-clothes officer standing near her overheard her telling a companion she had received a ticket for illegal possession earlier. She told her friend about the ticket while she held yet another beer, this time a can of Keystone Light. She was incarcerated at the Monroe County Jail.

In addition to enforcement, ISEP officers also offer free training programs for alcohol and tobacco businesses. These classes cover not only basic alcohol and tobacco laws, but also how to spot false identification. Upcoming classes will be held at the Ellettsville Fire Department Training Room, 5080 West State Road 46, □ on Friday, September 12, and Friday, September 19, 2008. More information is available at www.in.gov/atc/isep.

Indiana State Excise Police officers are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission. While excise officers are empowered to enforce any state law, they primarily focus on alcohol, tobacco and related violations.